

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 261240Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8761

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1769

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJ: GALLAGHER AND DYKES

1. EMBASSY ARRANGED TO BRING GALLAGHER AND DYKES DIRECTLY TO AIRCRAFT WITHOUT ENTERING AIRPORT. HOWEVER, PLANE WAS 40 MINUTES LATE IN TAKING OFF. ABC AND AP HAD BOUGHT UP SEATS ON THE AIRCRAFT AND BROUGHT ALONG A CAMERA CREW. THEIR INTENTION IS TO FILM THE MEN AND CONTINUE ON TO ROME, WHERE PICTURES AND STORY WILL BE RELAYED BY SATELLITE. UNLIKELY ACTING PAO ROSS CAN PREVENT THIS.

2. BOTH MEN HAVE BEEN WELL BRIEFED ON NEED TO AVOID SAYING ANYTHING CONTROVERSIAL TO THE PRESS OR SPECULATING ON THE IDENTIFY OF THEIR CAPTORS. PICTURES WILL SIMPLY SHOW TO THOSE WHO KNEW THE MEN BEFORE THAT THEY HAVE LOST CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT. WHILE DYKES' ORAL DELIVERY IS A BIT HALTING, I DO NOT THINK THAT IS MUCH TO HANG SPECULATION ON. THEREFORE SUGGEST WE CAN ONLY RELAX AND RIDE IT OUT. FACT THEY WERE INTERROGATED AND GOT SOME ROUGH TREATMENT, EVEN IF THAT WAS THE WAY STORY CAME OUT, WOULD NOT BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGING IN AND OF ITSELF AS WE SEE IT HERE, THOUGH IT WOULD OF COURSE BE PREFERABLE TO AVOID SUCH A LINE.

LAMBRAKIS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION MEDIA, PRISONERS RELEASE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760072-0669  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GALLAGHER AND DYKES  
**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, PINT, LE, US, (DYKES, WILLIAM R), (GALLAGHER, CHARLES D)  
**To:** STATE USIA  
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